capital requirement. As at end-March, 1994, assistance of Rs. 377 crores was sanctioned to 88 companies (including assistance of Rs. 2.00 crores to a company in Rajasthan) under the scheme. IDBI has reported that these companies have been regular in payment of their dues under the scheme.

Intermediates for Anti-TB Drug Production

6440. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 2 Gynopyrazine and DAMN are intermediates used to manufacturing of anti-TB drug pyrazinamide;

(b) whether it is also a fact that both these intermediates are independent from each other;

(c) the reasons for difference in the rates of customs duty for both of these intermediates; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) 2 Gynopyrazine (not 2 Gynopyrazine) is a penultimate stage drug intermediate which gives Pyrazinamide on treatment with ammonia in a one step reaction whereas DAMN is a basic raw material which in four chemical steps gives Pyrazinamide. To maintain a graded duty structure between the basic stage and the penultimate stage intermediate and to encourage the production of the drug Pyrazinamide from the more basic stage, the customs duty on DAMN was reduced from 50% to 25%. Customs duty on 2-Gynopyrazine continues to be 50%.

Loans Disbursed to Industries

6441. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases where loans have been disbursed to industries by the Financial Institutions without securing charge on them during the last three years, institution-wise; and

(b) the reasons for such violation and action taken against the officers concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the term loan provided by the all India financial institutions are usually secured by way of equitable mortgage/hypothecation of fixed asset/movable asset acquired/to be acquired by industrial concerns as well as their existing assets, if any. Further, institutions also take suitable personal and other guarantees wherever required for securing assistance. To facilitate implementation of projects in time, institutions sometimes disburse part of the loan by way of interim/bridge loan pending creation of final stipulated security. The security in such cases is created in due course.

Security Thread in Currency Notes

6442. SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that insertion of alternatively embedded and exposed (windowed) security thread into currency notes by the cylinder mould vat process is patented process of any foreign firm;

(b) if so, the names and address of such foreign firm;

(c) whether window insertion of security thread into currency notes can be done through any other process; and